



Application No.: 09/682,630

RD-29301

D.A.
9200/1742

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to:

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
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Typed or printed name: NITA M. LYNCH
Signature: Nita M. Lynch

#13

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

PETITION TO WITHDRAW HOLDING OF ABANDONMENT
UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.181(a)

In re Application of: Jiang et al. Art Unit: 1742
Application No.: 09/682,630 Examiner: A. Wessman
Filed: October 1, 2001
Title: Rhodium, Platinum, Palladium Alloy

Attention: Office of Petitions
Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Box DAC
Washington, D.C. 20231

SIR:

The above-identified application was held to be abandoned for failure to timely file a proper reply to a notice sent by the United States Patent and Trademark Office.

APPLICANTS HEREBY PETITION TO WITHDRAW HOLDING OF ABANDONMENT.

Per MPEP 711.03(c), no fee is required for this petition.

Statement:

1. Applicants received an Office Action dated 13 August 2002.
2. The Office Action stated a shortened statutory period for reply of 3 months, thus having an expiration date of 13 November 2002.

3. Applicants mailed a Response having an attached certificate of mailing signed and dated 13 November 2002, which is within the 30-day response period. See attachment 1.
4. Applicants received a postcard receipt from the USPTO Office of Initial Patent Examination (OIPE), date-stamped 18 November 2001, confirming receipt of the Response by the USPTO. See attachment 2.
5. Applicants next received a Notice of Abandonment dated 14 March 2003, stating the application was held abandoned for failure to timely file a proper response to the Office Action. See attachment 3.
6. Applicants respectfully submit that this holding of Abandonment is improper because Applicants' Response was sent within 3 months of the mail date of the Office Action.
7. Applicants therefore respectfully submit this petition to request the holding of abandonment be withdrawn and the Response submitted by Applicants on 13 November 2002 be considered.

Respectfully submitted,



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3 April 2003

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Attachments:

1. Applicants' Response (copy)
2. OIPE postcard receipt (copy)
3. Notice of Abandonment (copy)